

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 10 and ending at page 14, line 27 with the following:

Figures 5a and 5b show an intravascular device 500 according to an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 5a is a cross-sectional view of intravascular device 500. FIG. 5b is a side view of intravascular device 500. Intravascular device 500 includes center wire 510, inner insulating layer 520, shield 530, outer insulating layer 540, and distal insulator 550. Center wire 510 is comprised of an electrically conductive material. In an illustrative embodiment, the conductive and insulating layers 510, 520, 530 and 540 are staggered at the proximal end 570 to permit coupling of device 500 to a connector cable 180 attached to an antenna input to imaging controller 170. In an illustrative embodiment, center wire 510 is comprised of nitinol. In a further illustrative embodiment, center wire 510 is gold-plated to increase its conductivity. Inner insulating layer 520 is illustratively comprised of polyamide, polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE, or ~~teflon~~Teflon) or parylene. Shield 530 is comprised of an electrically conductive material, illustratively gold. Outer insulating layer 540 is comprised of PTFE in an illustrative embodiment. Distal insulator 550 is comprised of a soft insulating material, illustratively silicone or polyurethane.